

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated
Reply to Office action of

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended **Claims 1, 11, 12 and 17**, cancelled **Claims 10 and 16**. **Claims 1 through 9, 11 through 15, and 17 through 20** remain pending in the present application. **Claims 1 and 12** are independent claims.

The indication by the Examiner in the recent Office Action (Paper No. 20041112), mailed November 17, 2004, that **Claims 10, 11, 16 and 17** would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims. **Claims 10 and 16** have been so rewritten and **Claims 11 and 17** have been rewritten to depend from **Claims 10 and 16** respectfully.

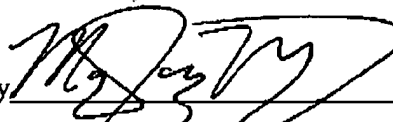
In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected **Claims 1-5, 12, 13, 18 through 20** under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated either by Jodwischat or Harnett. **Claims 6 through 9, 14 and 15** were further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jodwischat. The indication by the Examiner that **Claims 10, 11, 16 and 17** would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims were allowable over the prior art of record is noted with appreciation.

Applicant has amended independent **Claim 1** to incorporate the allowable subject matter of **Claim 11**. Applicant has further amended independent **Claim 16** to incorporate the allowable subject matter of **Claim 17**. Applicant respectfully submits that for at least these reasons, amended independent **Claims 1 and 16** and corresponding dependent Claims are allowable over the prior art applied of record.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted:

JOHNSTON, HOLROYD & ASSOCIATES

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